Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Cancelled)

2.   (Currently Amended) A system for threading e-mail messages, comprising:

a mailbox processor module for receiving e-mail messages including a first e-mail message and a second e-mail message;

a mailbox, communicatively coupled to the mailbox processor module, for electronically storing the received e-mail messages;

a threading engine, communicatively coupled to the mailbox processor module, for:

determining that the first received e-mail message is related to the second e-mail message, the second e-mail message received subsequent to the first e-mail message;

creating an e-mail thread if the first e-mail message is related to the second e-mail message;

associating the e-mail thread with the first e-mail message and the second e-mail message, the e-mail thread additionally including a thread header, the thread header having e-mail thread information derived from attributes of at least one of the first or second e-mail messages; and

a display engine operable to display information about one or more received e-mail messages in a user interface where thread header information is displayed, the displayed thread header information being distinct from information displayed for individual e-mail messages and where the thread header information is displayed in the mailbox in place of the information mailbox entries for the first e-mail message and the second e-mail message associated with the e-mail thread.

3.   (Cancelled)

4.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 wherein the persistent thread header includes a subject of the e-mail thread.

5.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 wherein the persistent thread header includes an originator of the e-mail thread.

6.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 wherein the persistent thread header includes indicia of the number of messages in the thread.

7.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 wherein the persistent thread header includes a time that the e-mail thread was most recently updated.

8.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 2 wherein the threading engine additionally updates the thread header associated with the e-mail thread.

9.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8 wherein the thread header includes a subject of the e-mail thread.

10.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8 wherein the thread header includes an originator of the e-mail thread.

11.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8 wherein the thread header includes indicia of the number of messages in the e-mail thread.

12.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 8 wherein the thread header includes a time that the e-mail thread was most recently updated.

13.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 36 wherein the thread header includes a subject of the e-mail thread.

14.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 36 wherein the thread header includes an originator of the e-mail thread.

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15. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 36 wherein the thread header includes indicia of the number of messages in e-mail thread.

16. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 36 wherein the thread header includes a time that the e-mail thread was most recently updated.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) A method for threading e-mail messages, comprising:

receiving a first e-mail message;

receiving a second e-mail message subsequent to the first e-mail message;

determining that the first e-mail message is related to a second e-mail message;

creating an e-mail thread if the second e-mail message is related to the first e-mail message;

associating the e-mail thread with the first e-mail message and the second e-mail message, the e-mail thread including a persistent thread header, the thread header having e-mail thread information derived from attributes of at least one of the first or second e-mail messages; and

displaying thread header information in a user interface where the thread header information is displayed in a mailbox in lieu of information for individual e-mail messages associated with the e-mail thread.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 further comprising:

receiving a third e-mail message;

determining that the third e-mail message is related to the e-mail thread;

associating the third e-mail message with the e-mail thread; and

updating the thread header to include information derived from attributes of the third e-mail message.

20. (Cancelled)

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21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 wherein the displayed thread header information includes displaying a color associated with a sender of the first e-mail message.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 wherein the displayed thread header information includes displaying a color associated with a sender of the second e-mail message.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 wherein each sender of an e-mail has an associated priority, and the displayed thread header information is displayed in a color associated with a sender having the highest priority.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 further comprising displaying information from at least one unthreaded e-mail message in the same user interface.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 further comprising displaying an expansion icon associated with the thread header in the user interface.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 further comprising:
responsive to a selection of the expansion icon, displaying information about each individual e-mail message associated with the e-mail thread in the user interface.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 further comprising highlighting for selection an oldest unread e-mail message associated with the e-mail thread.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26 wherein e-mail messages associated with the e-mail thread are displayed in a common color.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 wherein the second e-mail message is related to the first e-mail message if it is a reply to the first e-mail message.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 wherein the second e-mail message is a reply to the first e-mail message if a In-Reply-To field of a header of the second e-mail message identifies the first e-mail message.

31.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 wherein the second e-mail message is related to the first e-mail message if it includes a forward of the first e-mail message.

32.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 wherein the first e-mail message and the second e-mail message are stored in different folders of a user's mailbox.

33.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32 wherein at least one of the e-mail messages is stored in the user's sent items folder.

34.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 32 wherein at least one of the e-mail messages is stored in the user's personal items folder.

35.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 2 wherein the threading engine is further configured for:

      receiving a third e-mail message;

      determining that the third e-mail message is related to the e-mail thread;

      associating the third e-mail message with the e-mail thread; and

      updating the thread header to include information derived from attributes of the third e-mail message.

36.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product for threading e-mail messages, the
program product stored on a computer readable medium and adapted to perform the operations
of:

      receiving a first e-mail message;

      receiving a second e-mail message subsequent to the first e-mail message;

      determining that the first e-mail message is related to a second e-mail message;

      creating an e-mail thread if the second e-mail message is related to the first e-mail
message;

      associating the e-mail thread with the first e-mail message and the second e-mail
message, the e-mail thread including a thread header, the thread header having e-mail thread
information derived from attributes of at least one of the e-mail messages; and

      displaying thread header information in a user interface where the thread header
information is displayed in a mailbox, the displayed thread header information being distinct
from information displayed for individual e-mail messages and where the thread header
information is displayed in place of the information for each e-mail message associated with the
e-mail thread.

37.   (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 36, further adapted for:

      receiving a third e-mail message;

      determining that the third e-mail message is related to the e-mail thread;

      associating the third e-mail message with the e-mail thread; and

      updating the thread header to include information derived from attributes of the third
e-mail message.

38.   (Currently Amended) A system for threading e-mail messages, comprising:

     receiving means, for receiving a first e-mail and a second e-mail message;

     determining means, communicatively coupled to the receiving means, for determining that the first e-mail message is related to a second e-mail message, the second e-mail message received subsequent to the first e-mail message;

     creating means, communicatively coupled to the determining means, for creating an e-mail thread if the first e-mail message is related to the second e-mail message; and

     associating means, communicatively coupled to the creating means, for associating the e-mail thread with the first e-mail message and the second e-mail message, the e-mail thread additionally including a thread header, the thread header having e-mail thread information derived from attributes of at least one of the e-mail messages; and

     a display means operable to display information about one or more received e-mail messages in a user interface where thread header information is displayed as an entry in a mailbox and where the thread header information is displayed in place of mailbox entries ~~the information~~ for each e-mail message associated with the e-mail thread.

39.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 38, wherein:

     the receiving means are further configured to receive a third e-mail message;

     the determining means are further configured to determine that the third e-mail message is related to the e-mail thread; and

     the associating means are further configured to associate the third e-mail message with the e-mail thread and to update the persistent thread header to include information derived from the attributes of the third e-mail message.

40.   (Currently Amended) A method for threading e-mail messages, comprising:

receiving a first e-mail message;

receiving a second e-mail message that is related to the first e-mail message; and

threading the first e-mail message and the second e-mail message, the threading

including:

creating an e-mail thread having a thread header, the thread header having e-mail

thread information derived from attributes of at least one of the first or second e-mail messages;

and

displaying the thread header as an entry in a mailbox.

41.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 40, further comprising:

receiving a third e-mail message related to either the first e-mail message or the second

e-mail message; and

updating the thread including updating the displayed thread header

42.   (Currently Amended) A method for threading e-mail messages, comprising:

receiving a first e-mail message;

receiving a second e-mail message related to the first e-mail message; and

threading the first e-mail and the second e-mail, the threading including displaying a

display item indicating a nature of the relationship between the first e-mail message and the

second e-mail message and where the display item is displayed in a mailbox in place of mailbox

entries for the first e-mail message and the second e-mail message.

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43. (Previously Presented) A method for threading e-mail messages, comprising:

receiving a first e-mail message;

receiving a second e-mail message subsequent to the first e-mail message;

determining that the first e-mail message is related to a second e-mail message, where determining if the first e-mail message is related to the second e-mail message includes:

identifying whether a subject field of the first e-mail message and the subject field of the second e-mail message include common data, and

if the subject field includes common data, determining whether the second e-mail message includes a message identifier included in the first e-mail message;

creating an e-mail thread if the second e-mail message is related to the first e-mail message;

associating the e-mail thread with the first e-mail message and the second e-mail message, the e-mail thread including a thread header, the thread header having thread information derived from attributes of at least one of the first or second e-mail messages; and

displaying thread header information in a user interface.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 43, where determining whether the subject field includes common data includes disregarding subject prefixes.

45. (New) A method comprising:

receiving a first e-mail message and a second e-mail message;

determining that the first e-mail message is related to the second e-mail message;

creating an e-mail thread associated with the first e-mail message and the second e-mail message;

displaying a thread header as an entry in a mailbox in place of entries in the mailbox for the first e-mail message and the second e-mail message.